

disposed to waste any more time in the matter.

The documents handed the committee of the University of Copenhagen for examination are:

First, a typewritten report, prepared by Cook's secretary, Walter Lonsdale, and covering sixty-one pages of foolscap.

Second, a typewritten copy made by Lonsdale from Cook's notebooks. This occupies sixteen pages of foolscap and includes a description of the expedition during the period from March 18, 1896, to June 12, 1898, during which, according to the statement, Cook journeyed from Searveig to the North Pole and returned to a point on the polar ice not specifically indicated, but west of the Axel Heiberg Land. The papers were not accompanied by a private letter from Cook, but Secretary Lonsdale stated verbally to the committee that the original notes and books of the explorer, from which his copies were made, had been sent to Europe by another route, as a precautionary measure, and he delivered to the committee in the course of a few days.

In presenting the data Lonsdale stated explicitly and repeatedly that copy No. 2 was a complete and accurate duplication of the information contained in all of the documents, and that could be of any importance to the committee for the purposes of this examination. In spite of the explorer's promise and his secretary's assurance that they would be forthcoming, the committee is not yet in the possession of the original notebooks and diaries.

Cook's Whereabouts Not Known.

Up to this time it has been impossible for the university authorities to re-establish communication with Dr. Cook, which was suspended some time ago. The explorer's address is not known here, even to Secretary Lonsdale. After the meeting of the examining committee, however, the examining committee have made themselves acquainted individually with the material delivered, and so convinced themselves of its utter worthlessness as a means of determining whether Cook reached the pole, the president of the committee, Professor Stromgren, called a general meeting of the committee for last Friday, when the committee for the university, which is now made public, was drawn up.

Lonsdale, who had been invited to this meeting to answer some questions, brought with him a letter which he had received from Cook, which date neither the place nor date of the writing. The opening words of the letter are the postmark Marcellus, December 14, 1909. The same envelope contained a letter addressed by Cook to Professor Torp. The letter to Torp was dated New York, September 27, 1909.

"Nobody could feel more sorrow at the committee's crushing statement than myself for I had learned to appreciate Cook as a devoted friend, and an honest man," said Captain R. Nord Amundsen to-day with much feeling.

"The important question now is whether he is a swindler or merely ignorant. I prefer to believe that Dr. Cook was merely ignorant, but that he had arrived at the North Pole. This must have been a fixed idea with him. If he is swindling he must have changed his character in the past ten years."

"Has Fooled All," Says Bradley.

NEW YORK, December 21.—"He has fooled us all, from the King of Denmark down," was the exclamation of John R. Bradley, Dr. Cook's backer in his Arctic trip, when apprised of the news from Copenhagen. "And he fooled me with the rest," Mr. Bradley added.

"As a matter of fact," continued the sportsman, "I long ago lost all interest in Dr. Cook, the North Pole and everything connected with it. Polar bears and the wild life of the Arctic in general are the only things that have ever interested me much in that connection in any way."

"As for Dr. Cook, I haven't seen him or heard from him since he left the Waldorf-Astoria to go to Bronxville to prepare his records for submission to the University of Copenhagen. I wasn't in communication with him while he was at the Gramman, and as a matter of fact, hardly had an hour's solid conversation with him all the while he was here after his return from the Arctic."

"I discounted this decision from the University of Copenhagen some time ago," continued Mr. Bradley. "In connection with the rest of the world, I was delighted at the first news from Dr. Cook that he had reached the pole. His actions, however, and his failure to make more than the meagre statements regarding his trip which early followed his return to civilization took some of the smack off of the supposed triumph."

"I began to weaken decidedly when Dr. Cook left us all without so much as a word of good-bye. When a man runs away you can't expect his friends to fight for him. And Cook's flight—that's what it seemed to me to amount to—let all my interest in him and his affairs."

"Before that I never had reason to doubt Cook. His whole course in this matter seems inexplicable to me."

"I am sick of the whole blooming polar business and I don't want to hear anything more about the North Pole or any of its attributes," was the characteristic way in which Mr. Bradley summed up his attitude.

Sad Blow to Wake.

Charles E. Wake, Dr. Cook's closest personal friend and the only person besides his brother who knew the whereabouts of the explorer in the last few weeks, was so dumfounded when informed of the verdict reached by the University of Copenhagen that he gasped for breath and dropped the telephone receiver.

"This is such a severe blow to me that I cannot now fully appreciate it," said Mr. Wake when he had partially recovered his composure. "I had every confidence in Dr. Cook. Yet I am well acquainted with the authorities of the University of Copenhagen, and I know that any verdict they reach is just and true."

Dr. Cook never expected this adverse decision. He always spoke with full confidence that he had gone to the pole.

At present I do not know what to think of my old friend, Dr. Cook. Certainly I never dreamed of such a fraud as seems apparent now."

Mr. Wake said that Dr. Cook's wife

Rheumatism

is a Constitutional Disease. It manifests itself in local pains and pains-inflamed joints and stiff muscles—but cannot be cured by local applications.

It requires constitutional treatment and the best is a course of the great blood purifying and tonic medicine,

Hood's Sarsaparilla

which corrects the acid condition of the blood and builds up the whole system.

25 usual liquid form or chocolate tablets known as Sarsapars, 100 Doses \$1.

Open till 7 o'clock this evening.



If you'd read it, we'd write at great length about the attractive and highly appropriate "gift things" to be had here for men and boys and many things women like.

But when everyone is striving and planning how to best contribute to the good cheer of the glad Xmas time and to the happiness of their loved ones and friends, we cannot hope to engage much of your time!

A few helpful hints:

Silk Suspender and Garter Sets, in boxes, 75c; baskets, \$1.50.

Silk Umbrellas, with novelty handles, \$4.00 to \$12.00.

Walking Sticks, \$2.00 to \$8.50.

Smoking Jackets, so stylish to the trade, \$10.00 to \$20.00.

House Gowns, \$3.50 to \$10.00.

Bath Robes, \$2.50 to \$12.50.

Gilette Razors, \$5.00 up.

Thermos Jars, in cases and baskets, or motor cars, all sizes.

Motor Robes.

Carriage Robes.

Silk Handkerchiefs.

Silk Hosiery.

Silk Pajamas.

Smoking Sets.

Tollies and Bottles.

English Club Bags, fitted with manure and comb and brush sets.

Card Sets.

And if you want to mail it, get a lovely Seal in one of our Xmas boxes.

O. H. Berryman

MEN'S BOYS' OUTFITTERS

is with him in Norway, but that his

children are not. Mr. Wake is a general agent for a large insurance company, is rated as wealthy and has been one of Dr. Cook's earnest champions from the beginning.

Cook Unfit, Says Counsel.

"If the public knew the truth concerning Dr. Cook's mental and physical condition as it is known by his close friends, they would take a more charitable view of his present unfortunate situation," were the significant words uttered by H. Wellington Wack, counsel for Dr. Frederick A. Cook, to-day, when told that the University of Copenhagen had rejected Dr. Cook's proofs that he had been to the North Pole. He would make a full statement concerning Dr. Cook, but could not do so until he received the consent of the explorer.

"There is much that might be said that would throw a full light on Dr. Cook's condition," mean by this the things that I and my friends observed when he was here in New York. But I can say nothing."

Bridgman Never Doubled Verdict.

"From my personal knowledge of Dr. Cook and my knowledge of the work in the Arctic, I never wavered in my belief that Dr. Cook could never prove the claims he made," said Herbert L. Bridgman, secretary of the Peary Arctic Club, when informed of the Arctic conditions could easily see that no faith could be placed in the story."

Dr. Cook's claim that he made the ascent of Mount McKinley, in Alaska, the highest peak in America, is now under investigation by a committee of the Explorers' Club here. Dr. Cook promised to appear before the committee, but he did not do so.

His guide, Edward Barrill, who Cook claimed went with him up the mountain, came out with an affidavit, a few weeks ago, declaring that they had not been within several miles of the peak.

Discarded in All the World.

The end has come to one of the most fascinating chapters in all the romance of exploration. Honored by the King of Denmark, glorified by the University of Copenhagen, garlanded with wreaths of roses by young girls, and the freedom of the city of New York and acclaimed by thousands over the length and breadth of the land as the bravest man who ever dared the silent, frozen wastes of the Arctic, Dr. Frederick A. Cook stands tonight discredited in the house of his friends; a word from him in defense or explanation—nothing but disavowals.

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from his parliaments in the controversy that has raged about him ever since he first flashed word from Lørdwick, in the Shetland Islands, to his wife, "Successful, well; address Copenhagen."

Even that address to-night is lacking. Only his brother still stands bravely by him, refusing to believe that the verdict of the University of Copenhagen has been correctly reported.

Interest tonight turns to three questions: Where is the doctor? What will he have to say for himself? What will he do with himself?

May Be in Norway.

Charles Wake, a close friend, and Dr. Cook's brother in Brooklyn, both say he is at Christiansand, Norway, with his wife, but that the children are at school in this country. A friend who had opportunity to see a private letter from Dr. Cook to the rector of the University of Copenhagen says that the doctor then wrote that in the event of an adverse decision, he would take no appeal to the other scientific tribunals of the world.

One of the party who made the trip with Dr. Cook to Hamilton, Mont., where he had a dubious meeting with the geographers, and who had completed the ascent of Mount McKinley, said to-day: "On the way back to the East I asked the doctor what he would do if the University of Copenhagen found against him."

"I have not thought of that," answered the doctor.

"But you must think of it," said the friend.

"Well," answered the doctor, "if the university should find against me I believe I should go back among the Eskimos of Southern Greenland and try to carry out there such a medical mission as Dr. Grenfell has made famous."

The Board of Aldermen who voted Dr. Cook the headship of the city, on his return to this country, have now before them a resolution introduced to-day to withdraw their grant.

Peary and Friends Delighted.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 21.—"Three months ago, from the Labrador coast, I sounded an explicit and deliberate worded warning to the world, based upon complete and accurate information in regard to the Cook claims. In doing so I accepted the responsibility of devoting my name to the fulfillment of my duty to myself and to the world."

Commander Robert E. Peary to-day thus pointedly expressed his sentiments regarding the failure of the University of Copenhagen to find any proof of the recovery of the North Pole by Dr. Cook.

Far from showing any delight over the news from Copenhagen, it was evident, however, that Peary was pleased the news with much satisfaction.

"I have known the outcome of this since weeks before I reached this country on my return from the pole. It was not a matter of belief with me, but of absolute knowledge. I do not discuss this matter in detail for publication. It is not necessary."

Writing which I sent to the country before I landed is still sufficient. You remember my cablegram from Battle Harbor. Here is the exact wording of it: 'The Arctic expedition of Dr. Cook, to-day, has simply handed the public a gold brick.' Commander Peary declined further to discuss Dr. Cook or his affairs, and it was evident that he regarded the whole controversy as ended.

"It is time," was the terse comment of one of those officials who investigated closely the Arctic claims of Peary and Cook, and this was an accusation that aptly expressed the feeling of practically all of the officials of the National Geographic Society.

All along the officers of that organization representing the world, which scientific research have believed that the result of the deliberations of the Copenhagen institution would be as stated.

Professor Willis L. Moore, president of the society, said to-day: "Our own committee will continue its work, so that the world may be complete and contain a full history of the discovery of the pole. We hope that the report will be as fair and impartial as that which we have understood in all its details the controversy respecting the discovery which has arisen."

The subcommittee of the National Geographic Society, charged with the duty of taking up Cook's claim, requested him to turn over to that committee his records as soon as their examination had been completed by the Copenhagen University, but so far no answer has been received from Cook.

"We do not want to detract from the force and value of the Arctic expedition," declared Dr. Hayes, a member of the committee, to-day. "We shall make every effort to see Dr. Cook's records."

"We shall not be biased in any way by the Copenhagen verdict," continued Dr. Hayes, "in the prosecution of our inquiries. Dr. Cook has every possible chance, every reasonable opportunity."

"All the evidence of Dr. Cook pointed in one direction—the conclusion that Copenhagen has reached," declared Prof. Henry Rannett, one of the officers of the Geographic Society, "and the news is extremely gratifying and exactly what everybody has expected."

Did They Not Honor Cook?

LONDON, December 21.—"I wouldn't like to kick a man when he was down," said Captain Scott, the Antarctic explorer, when asked his opinion on Dr. Cook's verdict on Cook. He added: "It is a delicate matter to discuss, but it is satisfactory for the matter to be cleared up. Peary is to be congratulated on having established the claim to being the first to reach the North Pole."

Asked whether, having read Cook's published story, apparent to all the Copenhagen committee had to go on—no

\$75,000,000 IN STONE AND STEEL

The Cost of New Buildings Built in Ten Years Near the Hotel St. Regis.

A prominent New York daily newspaper said recently: "Within the last ten years there has been piled up on the half-square mile of territory bounded roughly by Fourth Avenue, Broadway, Forty-second and Fifty-ninth Streets, about seventy-five million dollars' worth of brick, stone and steel. Of this total, fully sixty millions is represented by the structures that would be spread before a man in a strish who would stand northward and downward from an 'anchorage' say 1,900 feet above Bryant Park."

The section above referred to is considerably less than one-quarter the area of the island of Manhattan, but it is the part in which the more important of New York's great buildings are now being located that are devoted to public and social purposes. In almost the center of this district—at Fifth Avenue and Fifty-ninth Street—stands the Hotel St. Regis, which has won for itself the deserved title of "America's Finest Hotel." Perfect in every detail of its equipment and service, it has a quiet, refined homeliness that commends it to the cultured and discriminating. Transient guests coming to New York with no accommodations of the very highest grade in every particular, and at standard rates, Single rooms are \$3 and \$4 a day; the same with private bath \$5 a day; or \$6 for two people; with a parlor, bedroom and private bath the rate is \$12 a day and up. Its restaurant is superlative in excellence, but the charges are no higher than those of other first-class hotels.

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GREATEST FRAUD EVER PERPETRATED IN WORLD'S HISTORY

Cook's Story Is Most Striking and Astonishing "Fake" That Ever Beguiled Human Race Netted Close to \$100,000 on Lecture Platform and in Newspapers and Disappeared.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

NEW YORK, December 21.—Nothing has been more striking in what will go down in history as the most astonishing imposture since the human race came on earth than the trip of Dr. Cook to the North Pole.

Its author in meeting every situation that came up. Faced with exposures that would have driven any ordinary swindler to confession or flight, Cook met them all with a smiling and unperturbed face, and was not driven to flee until the last coils were closing around him.

Peary discovered the pole on April 6, 1909.

It was recorded of Cook that while he was a passenger on the "Hans Egede" returning from the Arctic he seemed nervous and ill at ease until he learned that he was near the Shetland Islands, and then he became perfectly calm. In view of later developments it seems probable that he was mortally afraid that he would be sent back to civilization, and was perfectly assured in his own mind of the success of his scheme as soon as he sighted land. In fact, he beat the real discoverer of the pole by five days.

First Story of the "Fake."

The first story of the world knew of Cook's exploit was this wireless telegram from the Hans Egede:

"We have on board the American traveler, Dr. Cook, who reached the North Pole April 21, 1909. Dr. Cook arrived at Upernivik in May of 1908 from Cape York. The Eskimos of Cape York confirm Dr. Cook's story of his journey."

Cook confirmed the report as soon as he was in reach of a telegraph station, and at first his exploit was generally accepted as genuine, even in England, which afterwards had no faith in him.

But before Cook had reached Copenhagen, several observers had sized him up. "How could a man reach the North Pole as a fake," declared Admiral Melville, the surviving hero of the De Long expeditions, who will probably have the credit of branding Cook as an impostor in advance of any other authority.

"The reported discovery of the North Pole is a fake," declared Admiral Melville, as Cook was nearing Copenhagen.

Less warlike persons, such as Lieutenant Shackleton, the Antarctic explorer, diplomatically put to Cook questions, which he has never answered.

Great Britain, first of all the countries of the world, deserves the credit of refusing to accept the great fake. Denmark accepted Cook head over heels.

Cook met all impugnments with the gracious and modest dignity which always characterized him, and which went so far to convince men.

"I have been to the North Pole," he said, "and I have brought back the

could say if Cook reached the pole.

When I first read the published account of his trip I came to the conclusion that Dr. Cook had not accomplished what he claimed to have done."

Members of the Royal Geographical Society, who were in the club room on day expressed no surprise at the Copenhagen verdict. They were disposed to congratulate themselves that the society had not in any way recognized Dr. Cook as the discoverer of the North Pole.

The suggestion of inviting him to lecture before the society was broached at a committee meeting soon after Cook's arrival at Copenhagen. The opinion was unanimous that the society should await the proofs of his exploits.

The Scottish Geographical Society, usually conservative, telegraphed congratulations to Cook soon after the announcement of his alleged discovery.

Did Not Scare Mr. McKinley.

NEW YORK, December 21.—A verdict against Dr. Frederick A. Cook, which has been reached by the special committee of the Explorers' Club, which for more than two months has had under way an investigation into his pretension to having scaled the highest peak of Mount McKinley in August, 1909.

The committee, of which Marshall H. Saville, professor of archaeology at Columbia University, is the chairman, completed its investigation some days ago, and its report has been written and signed. The verdict, according to Professor Saville, will be submitted to the directors of the Explorers' Club at a meeting next Friday. The directors were prepared to receive the report yesterday, but